

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:405

ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005

IMPORT OF BREEDING CATTLE FROM AUSTRALIA

Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some States have imported breeding cattle from Australia for breed improvement under the National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether a large number of such cattle died;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has taken up this issue with the Australian authorities;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the reaction of Australian authorities thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR):

(a) to (f) Yes, Sir. During April 2002, 201 breeding cattle were imported by Andhra Pradesh (160 Nos.) and West Bengal (41 Nos.) from Australia for breed improvement under the National Project on Cattle & Buffalo Breeding (NPC8B) of which 151 animals have died so far. During the post import quarantine, some animals were tested positive for exotic diseases. The Government of Australia was approached for deportation of the animals. The exporting country refused to take back the animals on the plea that under Australian Quarantine Policy, the animals cannot return to Australia.